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Date: February 23, 2006 Name: /Gustavo Siller, Jr./

**BRINKS
HOFER
GILSON
& LIONE**

Our Case No. 9281-4631
Client Reference No. N US02078

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Masamichi Saito et al.) Examiner: William Joseph
) Klimowicz
Serial No. 10/642,899)
) Art Unit: 2652
Filing Date: August 18, 2003)
)
For: Dual-Type Magnetic Detecting Element In)
Which Free Magnetic Layer And Pinned Magnetic)
Layer Have Suitably Selected β Values)

STATUS INQUIRY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant filed the above-identified application on August 18, 2003, but has not yet received a first Office Action. Please advise the undersigned attorney as to when a first Office Action is expected to issue on this application.

Respectfully submitted,

/Gustavo Siller, Jr./
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